SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR KARA HAHN



FIFTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

March 23, 2015

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Legislator Hahn, County Executive Bellone Partner with Advocates to Urge Legislature to adopt Domestic Violence Policy that Protects Victims from Repeat Violence and Risk of Death

HAUPPAUGE, NY – Hours before a critical vote on a bill aimed at protecting victims from domestic violence, Legislator Kara Hahn (D - Setauket) and advocates will gather in front of Suffolk County's Domestic Violence Commemorative Tree to urge legislators to adopt the policy. If approved, the legislation will give the Suffolk County Police Department new tools for differentiating risk and educating victims. Later in the day, legislators will cast votes just feet away from that somber reminder of the lives that have been lost to domestic violence in Suffolk County. Very visual- with participants standing under memorial tree surrounded by women holding aloft signs that spell out the danger signs of intimate partner violence.

Who: Suffolk County Legislator Kara Hahn, author of the bill

County Executive Steve Bellone

Laura Ahearn, Executive Director, Crime Victims Center at Parents for Megan's Law

Sergeant Kelly Lynch, Commanding Officer, SCPD Domestic Violence Bureau Colleen Merlo, Executive Director, SC Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Other Members of the SC Legislature and representatives of advocacy organizations.

<u>When:</u> Tuesday, March 24, 2015 11:00 AM

Where: North County Complex (in front of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building)

Domestic Violence Commemorative Tree,

725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown

Next to the 4th Precinct just east of the intersection of Old Willets Rd and RT 454

Please note that in the event of foul weather, the event will be held in the lobby of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building